As a large number of such requests are received and dealt with on day-to-day basis, it is not feasible to meet all the requests.

Conversion of railway lines in Maharashtra

273. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted proposals to the Central Government for widening of narrow/meter gauge railway lines into broad gauge railway lines in Maharashtra State;

(b) if so; what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the number of Rail gauge conversion projects proposed by the State Government to the widening of narrow/meter gauge railway lines along with length and particular rail line to be included in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) what measures/steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken by Government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Proposals for Gauge Conversions of NG/MG lines to Broad gauge submitted by Maharashtra Government to the Central Government are as under:—

i. Aurangabad-Parbhani

ii. Parbhani-Mudkhed-Adilabad

iii. Gondia-Chanda Fort

iv. Sholapur-Bijapur

v. Daund-Baramati

vi. Mirja-Latur

vii. Pachora-Jamner

viii. Nagpur-Nagbhid.

(c) and (d) Maharashtra Government have specifically requested for inclusion of the following two lines in the Eighth Five Year Plan:—

i. Gauge Conversion of Pachora-Jamner Narrow Gauge rail line (56 kms.)

ii. Gauge Conversion of Nagpur-Nagbhid Narrow Gauge rail line (110 kms.)

The position with regard to various projects is as under:—

i. *Aurangabad-Parbhani* (177 *kms*) —Gauge conversion work has already been completed.

ii. *Parbhani-Mudkhed-Adilabad* (248 *kms*)—Parbhani-Purna has been completed. Purna-Nanded is targetted for completion in 1994-95 and Nanded-Mudkhed-Adilabad in 1995-96.

iii. *Gondia-Chanda* Fort (242 *kms.*) —The work has been taken up. Gondia-Wadsa has already been converted into BG. Work is in progress between Wadsa and Chanda Fort would be completed in 1995-96.

iv. *Sholapur-Bijapur* (109 kms.)— The work is included in the project